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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Kurt E. Schmidt et al. Art Unit: 2857  
Serial No.: 09/294,563 Examiner: UNKNOWN  
Filed : April 20, 1999  
Title : PREDICTING PERFORMANCE OF TELEPHONE LINES FOR DATA SERVICES

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

FEB 01 2000

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

Please add the following claims:

53. (new) A method of detecting a bridged tap in a customer line, comprising:  
making one-ended electrical measurements on the customer line;  
determining one or more admittances of the customer line from the measurements; and  
reporting that the customer line has a bridged tap in response to finding a signature of a bridged tap in the one or more admittances.

Sub 3 54. (new) The method of claim 53, wherein the signature is a frequency dependant property of the one or more admittances.

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Date of Deposit

I hereby certify under 37 CFR 1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

*James H. Borden*  
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